

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 10-11, 14-15, 17-19, 21-24, 27, 29-30, 35-42, 48-59, 61-63, 86-94, and 101-113 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 5, 10, 19, 21-22, 35, 40, 42, 49, 55, 63, and 86-94 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer of Applicants' right to pursue the canceled subject matter in one or more continuing applications. Claims 11, 14, 17-18, 23, 27, 29, 36-38, 48, 50-54, 56-59, 101-104, 108, 110, and 112 are amended herein, including withdrawn claims 23, 27, 29, 36-38, and 112. No new matter is introduced.

During an Examiner-initiated telephone call of February 9, 2011, the Examiner indicated that claims 101-111 and 113 would be allowable if amended to insert "hyaluronate salt" before the phrase "derivative thereof." Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging that these claims define patentable compositions and method of treatment using those compositions.

The Examiner considered independent claim 1 to be a duplicate of the allowable claims and suggested cancelling it. While Applicants disagree that claim 1 was a duplicate of any of claims 101-111 or 113, it is nevertheless cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer of Applicants' right to pursue a claim of the same scope in a continuing application. However, Applicants wish to maintain the claims dependent from claim 1, and therefore have amended those claims to depend from the allowable claims. Because the dependent claims have already been examined for compliance with §112, as required by 37 CFR §1.104 and MPEP §707.07(g), they are believed to be in condition for allowance. Moreover, Applicants have amended the withdrawn method claims to depend from or otherwise include all of the limitations of the allowable claims, and therefore submit that rejoinder is warranted.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

AUTHORIZATION

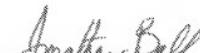
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3732, Order No. 13323.105005. Furthermore, in the event that an extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account No. 50-3732 and Order No. 13323.105005.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 22, 2011

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